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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION E-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CCO-00 SSO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 NSCE-00
CAB-09 CIAE-00 COM-08 DODE-00 DOT-12 INR-07 NSAE-00
RSC-01 USIE-00 L-04 H-02 P-03 PRS-01 RSR-01 /114 W
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE 25 MAY 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 2491

REF: ROME 2490 AV 4 IT-US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR

DEPARTMENT PASS CAB AND DOT

1. I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE PROGRESS OF OUR CURRENT CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH ITALY WITH CLOSE PERSONAL ATTENTION. IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT THE RRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF PACKAGE SOLUTION DESCRIBED IN ROME 2490 CONTAINS ALL OF THE ELEMENTS OF AN AGREEMENT ON THE MAJOR POINTS AT ISSUE WHICH WOULD ADEQUATELY PROTECT U.S. POLICY INTERESTS AND WOULD BE FAIR FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE CARRIERS OF BOTH SIDES. I WOULD SUPPORT FURTHER EFFORTS OF THE DELEGATION TO IMPROVE PACKAGE IN CERTAIN AREAS SUCH AS ITALIAN INTERMEDIATES BUT I FEEL STRONGLY THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT TREAT THESE AS MAKE-OR-BREAK ISSUES. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS PACKAGE IS REGARDED, ON BALANCE, AS ADVANTAGEOUS BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. CARRIERS PRESENT IN ROME. WHILE I RECOGNIZE PACKAGE CONTAINS SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS ON THE PART OF THE U.S., IMPORTANT TO ALSO BEAR IN MIND ITALIANS HAVE MADE MAJOR MOVEMENT IN NUMBER OF AREAS WHICH HAVE BEEN MOST DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO SWALLOW.

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2. I HAVE EXERTED PERSONALLY CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON THE ITALIAN SIDE AT HIGH LEVELS IN THE COURSE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO HOLD THEIR DEMANDS WITHIN REASONABLE LIMITS AND TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. I THEREFORE URGE THAT WE NOT LOSE OUR PRESENT OPPORTUNITY, WHICH IS NOT LIKELY TO RECUR SOON, TO PUT THIS MATTER TO BED AT LONG LAST. IN MY OPINION COMPROMISES WE ARE BEING ASKED TO MAKE, ALTHOUGH SIGNIFICANT, LEAVE OUR POLICY POSITIONS SUFFICIENTLY PROTECTED AND WE CAN AFFORD TO LOOK AT THE PROPOSAL IN THE LIGHT OF THE BROADER GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED.

4. I WANT ALL WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO KNOW, INCLUDING CAB AND DOT, THAT I WOULD NOT RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THIS AGREEMENT IF IT WAS NOT IN MY OPINION A FAIR ONE IN ECONOMIC TERMS FOR ALL INTERESTED U.S. ELEMENTS BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC. ASIDE FROM THIS, I WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT THERE ARE CURRENT POLITICAL ASPECTS INCLUDING FORTHCOMING ITALIAN LOCAL ELECTIONS ON JUNE 7 WHICH ADD AN ADDITIONAL ELEMENT WHICH I CANNOT OVERLOOK. HAVING PUSHED THE ITALIANS VERY HARD TO GET TO THE POINT OF A FAIR AGREEMENT, A FAILURE NOW TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS PROMPTLY CANNOT FAIL TO HAVE AN UNFAVORABLE POLITICAL IMPACT IN THESE ELECTIONS. CONVERSELY, THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESS IN THIS MATTER AFTER SO MANY YEARS WOULD COME PRECISELY AT THE MOMENT WHEN ITS IMPACT WOULD BE MOST FAVORABLE FOR U.S. POLITICAL INTERESTS IN ITALY AND THOSE OF THE POLITICAL ELEMENTS WE ARE SUPPORTING IN THIS COUNTRY.
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